

**Passaic River CAG Activities for Review and Comment of Focused Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan on the Lower Eight Mile Cleanup**  
As of 1/6/13

**Planned CAG Outreach Activities**

- Review needed fact sheets with EPA, determine which topics CAG will take on
- CAG would like a chance to review EPA fact sheets to help ensure they address key community questions
- Assist with translation support at public meetings
- Review and provide any warranted additions to EPA media list
- Review and provide any warranted additions to EPA list of community groups and local contacts
- Assist in getting the word out about the FFS and public meetings
- Identify and communicate important community reasons to get involved and provide input

**Community Information Needed in Fact Sheets/Web Site**

- Acronyms and key terms
- Introduction to Superfund and the cleanup process
- Overview of the General Passaic cleanup, history, what the cleanup will and will not address, role of the CPG, how cleanup will be funded
- Overview of sediment contamination
- Description of the cleanup options and pros and cons of the three different choices with a focus on local impacts, clarify why the CPG option is not an EPA option under consideration
- Community involvement on the Passaic, how to get involved
- Good map with lower eight miles identified, overall project mile markers and towns and landmarks, showing roads and satellite image
- All fact sheets need to be accessible and well written, taking into account the low technical literacy of some communities and in appropriate translations

**Suggested Format for EPA Public Meetings**

- Basic presentation ensure that everyone gets all of the main information, this can be videotaped ahead of time as well for broader distribution
- Open House format to provide an opportunity for education, asking questions, staffed poster sessions
- Formal comment session at the end once opportunity for learning and questions is provided, clearly announce time limits in advance
- Provide opportunities for people to leave comments in other formats, such as on-line stations, comment forms, audio recorders
- Good fact sheets and information for folks to take home and share
- Translators for Spanish and Portuguese

### **Recommended Locations for possible EPA Public Meetings**

- Kearney/Harrison—Kearney library or
- Newark/East Harrison--2 meetings at different times)
- Belleville—possibly Nereid Boat Club

### **Recommended Enhancements to EPA Public Meetings and Outreach**

- Widespread communication and weather-related cancellation process
- Special attention on how to notify river property owners and those most impacted, perhaps postcards to specific addresses
- Provide a webinar or two for folks who can not make it to physical meetings
- Create a video summary of information presented at the public meetings to post on line
- Hold separate briefings for Elected officials as appropriate
- Ensure all local repositories are up to date
- Make direct section on the homepage of ourpassaic.org for the FFS to make it easy to find key information quickly
- Ensure complete list of all media outlets
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### **Technical Issues Important to the Community to Provide Meaningful Input**

- Time for cleanup implementation, time to full recovery of River and end of fish advisories
- Loss of benthic organisms, crabs, fish, what are the impacts and why does this matter
- Monitoring and long-term stewardship, what will be tracked, how do we provide community assurance
- Restoration opportunities, impacts of the options on timing and effectiveness of different recovery actions including assumptions regarding natural recovery rates
- Ability to synchronize natural resource restoration plans with the cleanup activities
- Potential impacts on flooding
- Potential for recontamination from upstream sources
- Assumptions, mitigation, and potential impacts of sediment resuspension
- Life-cycle costs and risks, true-long implications of choices that leave significant contamination in place
- Where will the processing facility go, how long will it be there, how much land will be required—is it temporary or will it become a regional facility
- What sorts of treatment technology will be considered and how will final decisions be made if not articulated in the proposed plan
- How will disposal locations be determined if not articulated in the proposed plan
- Impacts on the local economy, local jobs, plans for additional Super JTI

activity

- Potential economic losses resulting from ongoing contamination
- Water access during construction
- Assumptions, plans and coordination with ship traffic if navigation lanes are dredged, and the overall potential impacts of this deeper dredging
- Assumptions, accuracy and relevant examples regarding dredging rates, and barge/pipeline usage,
- Potential impacts on project schedules due to bridge openings and the procedures and laws regarding operation and maintenance of bridges
- Human health risk from activities in addition to fish consumption
- Dredging vs. capping assumptions, long-term implications
- Environmental Justice analysis of the disposal options
- Community benefits agreements

### Tentative Schedule

<b>January 2014</b>	<b>CAG Meeting 1/9/14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present EPA model and modeling results</li> <li>• COE presentation on restoration plans</li> <li>• Review CAG issues and activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review draft FFS, other available materials</li> </ul>
<b>February 2014</b> Early February FFS/PP released?	<b>CAG Meeting 2/20/14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the proposed plan</li> <li>• Identify/discuss areas for CAG in-depth discussion and review</li> <li>• Identify draft set of issues for CAG recommendations</li> <li>• Begin CAG outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review proposed plan, final FFS</li> <li>• Create fact sheet on Alternatives based on the proposed plan</li> <li>• Evaluate life-cycle impacts of alternatives</li> <li>• Work with technical ctte to ID information needs for input</li> </ul>
<b>March 2014</b>	<b>CAG Meeting 3/13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive additional explanation based on CAG questions on the proposed plan</li> <li>• Discuss scope and focus of CAG recommendations</li> <li>• Begin draft CAG recommendations</li> <li>• Ongoing outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist CAG in answering key questions raised</li> <li>• Present information to the CAG</li> <li>• Review draft CAG input for technical accuracy</li> </ul>
<b>April 2014</b> End of 60 day comment period	<b>CAG Meeting 4/10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive additional explanation based on CAG questions on the proposed plan</li> <li>• Refine draft CAG recommendations</li> <li>• Ongoing outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review draft CAG input for technical accuracy</li> </ul>
<b>May 2014</b> End of 90 day comment period	<b>CAG Meeting 5/8</b> TBD based on overall schedule and public comment period	TBD